TILDE BITES BACK

TILDE FILM FESTIVAL PROGRAM 2025
3 DAYS OF TRANS-AUTHORED CINEMA

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT WE ARE ON TRADITIONAL LANDS OF THE WURUNDJERI WOI WURRUNG PEOPLE OF THE KULIN NATION. WE OFFER OUR RESPECT TO THE ELDERS OF THESE TRADITIONAL LANDS AND, THROUGH THEM, TO ALL ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE AND OFFER OUR RESPECT TO ALL SISTERGIRLS AND BROTHERBOYS. ALWAYS WAS, ALWAYS WILL BE, ABORIGINAL LAND.

SYMBOLISM
TIL•DE (NOUN\'TIL-D \): A SYMBOL (~) INDICATING EQUIVALENCY OR SIMILARITY BETWEEN TWO VALUES/APPROXIMATIONS.

Fa'afafine & Fa'atama/Fa'afatama (Samoa), **Mahu** (Tahiti/Hawaii), **Māhūkāne** (Hawai'i), **Vaka se lewa lewa** (Fiji), **Palopa** (Papua New Guinea), **Akava'ine** (Cook Islands), **Fakaleiti/leiti** (Tonga), **Fakafifine** (Niue), **Pinapinaaine/Binapinaaine** (Tuvalu & Kiribati), **Rae rae** (Tahiti), **Haka huahine** (Tokelau), **Binabinamane** (Kiribati), **Takatāpui** (Aotearoa), **Las Traviesas** (Columbia) **Two-spirit** (USA), **Hijra** (India), **Khawaja sira** (Pakistan), **Waria** (Indonesia).

FESTIVAL THEME: TILDE BITES BACK

This year's theme, "Bites Back," centres trans and gender-expansive authored filmmaking—amplifying voices that confront, resist, and reimagine the narratives imposed on us. In a time of heightened visibility and backlash, Bites Back is a celebration of creative defiance, self-determination, and the power of storytelling to challenge dominant norms and reclaim space on our own terms.

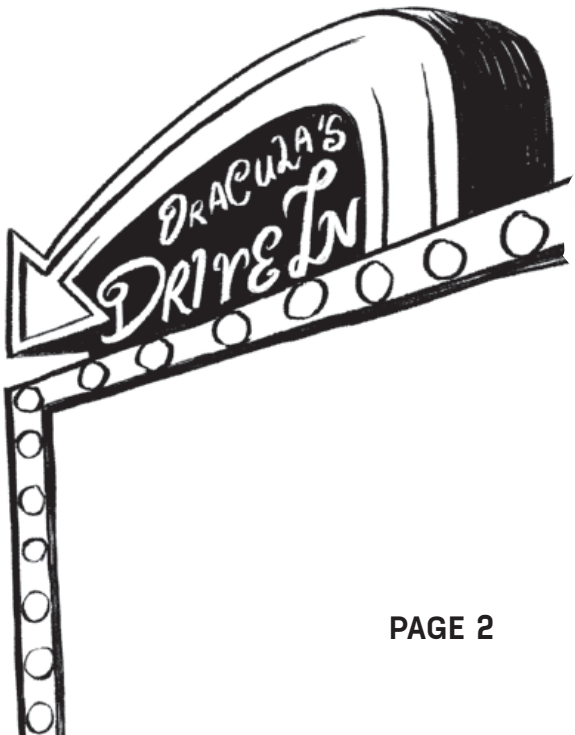
FESTIVAL AUNTIE: LILY WACHOWSKI

In 2025, TILDE proudly honours filmmaker Lilly Wachowski. As a writer, director, mentor, and Executive Director, Lilly is spearheading a powerful wave of trans-authored storytelling. More than an icon, she has reshaped pop culture through films that reflect trans experiences and use world-building to spark public dialogue. With a strong connection to Australia through The Matrix, TILDE is thrilled to present her executive-produced documentary, We Are Pat. We celebrate Lilly as our Festival Aunty, recognising her lasting impact on film, culture, and the broader community. We love you, Aunty!

PLAYED AT EVERY SESSION

Do Something ...
So-called "Australia", 2025, 1 mins
Dir. Mohammad Awad
(aka 3awadi) CAP

In Solidarity
So-called "Australia",
2025, Digital Art
Dir. Flick



TILDE ONLINE × ACMI – CINEMA 3

Experience TILDE Online in collaboration with ACMI. Enjoy a curated selection of short films by local filmmakers, showcasing voices from TILDE's July takeover at ACMI — all available to stream from your home.

Available from October 31 at: https://cinema3.acmi.net.au

SESSION: 1 (FRIDAY)

Sapphic Flicks presents: Opening Night
Guest Curated by Merryn Trescott & Jamie Connor

OCTOBER 31ST, 6:30PM - 10:00PM
FOOTSCRAY COMMUNITY ARTS

In these times, as space for the arts and its communities contracts.
We seek to expand our intra-communal space for new work.

From conversation to connection, TILDE 2025 opening night will be the impetus and space community needs to make the future.
It will showcase groundbreaking work, both filmic and performative, hold physical space for community and seed ideation for the 2026 commissions program. We invite artists, filmmakers, creatives, and First Nations voices of TILDE to be the conversation. To take space from within.

Featuring work by Sapphic Flicks and YIRRAMBOI

CONCEPT & DIRECTOR
Sherene Stewart

PRODUCER Sage Wright

CINEMATOGRAPHY + EDITS

Sapphic Flicks

TALENT
Soju Gang + Jada Narkle

SOUND
LustSickPuppy

GET TICKETS



SESSION: 2 (SATURDAY)

GET TICKETS

OUR FUTURE - SECOND EDITION
Screening & filmmaker in-conversation.

NOVEMBER 1ST, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
FOOTSCRAY COMMUNITY ARTS, FREE EVENT

OUR FUTURE is back for its second edition! Featuring trans-authored shorts from close to home and across the ditch, this year's selection continues to expand trans narratives. Young filmmakers take us on journeys through the stories they want to tell, with no prescriptions, no ticked boxes. From the world première of Linus Tolliday's **Journey's End**, to a new short by Luka Gracie (**More Than This**, TILDE 2024), to Mish Keating (**HEDGEHOG**, TILDE 2024), who this time steps behind the camera, and so much more, TILDE is thrilled to present this year's visionary cohort. A filmmaker Q&A will follow the screening of **OUR FUTURE**.



Journey's End
So-called "Australia", 2023, 15 mins
Dir. Linus Tolliday
Unclassified **(U), 15+**
WORLD PREMIERE

Nest
Aotearoa, 2024, 10 mins
Dir. Willem Koller
Unclassified **(U), 15+**
Captioned CAP
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

FOUND
So-called "Australia", 2022, 14 mins
Dir. Luka Otis Gracie
Unclassified **(U), 15+**
Captioned CAP



Emile is Missing
So-called "Australia", 2024, 16 mins
Dir. Sam Carson, Félix Morreo Zisserman
Unclassified **(U), 15+**
Captioned CAP

Bagua
So-called "Australia", 2025, 13 mins
Dir. Mish Keating
Unclassified **(U), 15+**

Sperm Donors Wanted!
Aotearoa, 2024, 12 mins
Dir. Logan Rea
Unclassified **(U), 15+**
Captioned CAP

SESSION: 3 (SATURDAY)

GET TICKETS

AFTRS AFTERNOON TEA & TOWN HALL

NOVEMBER 1ST, 3:00PM - 4:30PM
FOOTSCRAY COMMUNITY ARTS

TILDE bites back in 2025 with a trans film industry Town Hall – slash – afternoon tea. Grab a tea, coffee, and a snack, and come hear from trans industry experts Bayley Turner (Intimacy Coordinator), Harvey Zielinski (Director), and Tinaye Nyathi (Director), as they discuss the state of filmmaking in Victoria. They'll pose questions, and we'll be invited to share. Supported by AFTRS

SESSION 4: (SATURDAY)

GET TICKETS

INTERNATIONAL SHORTS - A MASK ENCOURAGED SCREENING

NOVEMBER 1ST, 6:00PM - 7:30PM
FOOTSCRAY COMMUNITY ARTS

Who among us hasn't, at some point, claimed something was "not for me," only to find ourselves 100% committed? This year, we turn our focus to North America, presenting stories that explore survival, downfall, and those oddly touching moments when we dream of becoming a puppygirl. This trio of films features a new DIY documentary masterpiece by indie legend Henry Hanson (**Dog Movie**, TILDE 2024), a stunning 16mm short set in the middle of nowhere by Hazel Katz, and a poetic journey of healing by Vivek Shraya.

We want our immunocompromised and disabled community to feel comfortable attending a TILDE screening. For this screening, we encourage COVID-safe practices, such as testing beforehand and wearing a mask (preferably a P2 or N95). A limited number of masks will be available at the door.



Bodyrebuilding
Canada, 2025, 11 mins
Dir. Vivek Shraya
Unclassified **(U), 15+**
Captioned CAP

Sydney & Kim
USA, 2023, 20 mins
Dir: Hazel Katz
Unclassified **(U), 15+**
Captioned CAP

Puppygirl
USA, 2025, 65 mins
Dir: Henry Hanson
Unclassified **(U), 18+**

SESSION 5: (SATURDAY)

GET TICKETS

GAY24 PRESENTS
Guest Curated by Jini Maxwell & Samantha Eckhardt

NOVEMBER 1ST, 9:00PM - 11:00PM
FOOTSCRAY COMMUNITY ARTS

SPECIAL LATE-NITE SCREENING, ONE NIGHT ONLY. HOT T4T ACTION UNEARTHED FROM THE VAULTS. COME WITNESS THE LOVE MACHINE HERSELF, IN ALL HER GLORY. BEAUTIFULLY RESTORED AND PRESENTED IN ENGLISH FOR THE FIRST TIME.

GAY24 Film Club and TILDE are extremely proud to present the Australian debut Antonio D'Agostino's 1980 trans softcore triumph **EVA-MAN: THE LOVE MACHINE.**

Eva has everything a lover could want, irresistible to both sexes and aided by The Love Maker; an incredible new piece of technology that allows her to become ready for anything at the touch of a button. It's this new technology that attracts the attention of an impotent local gangster, who covets The Love Maker in an attempt to recapture his past glory. It's up to Eva, alongside her bestie Ajita, to fight off this gang of spiteful heterosexuals and live to love another day. Co-starring the transfem dream duo of Eva Robbin's (yes that's how you spell her name, with the apostrophe and everything; incredible diva shit), and the legendary grindhouse superstar Ajita Wilson (MANCUBA SEXUAL, SADOMANIA), **EVA-MAN** is a gorgeous artefact of trans desire and desirability, a beautiful reminder that not only have we always been here, we've always been this hot.

PLUS! A T4T amuse-bouche in the form of **THE BEACH BOYS**; the new film from Milo Talwani (star of last year's GAY24 pick **DOG MOVIE**), in which two trans bros decide to do for one last surf whilst on their way to suicide bomb Jeff Bezos. Unmissable!

THESE FILMS CONTAIN NUDITY AND ADULT LANGUAGE. 18+ EVENT



Eva Man
Spain, Italy, 1980, 75 min
Dir. Antonio D'Agostino
Unclassified **(U), 18+**
English Subtitles, Captioned CAP

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

The Beach Boys
USA, 2024, 20 mins
Dir. Milo Talwani
Unclassified **(U), 18+**
Captioned CAP

SESSION 6: (SUNDAY)

GET TICKETS

CLOSING NIGHT: PAT DOUBLE FEATURE

NOVEMBER 2ND, 4:00PM - 8:00PM
FOOTSCRAY DRILL HALL

For TILDE's closing night, we're hosting a massive PAT DOUBLE BILL screening!

In collaboration with Snuff Puppets, TILDE is taking over the Footscray Drill Hall to create our very own cinema hideaway.

We'll be screening filmmaker Rowan Haber's **We Are Pat**, which revisits the '90s film **It's Pat** through a 2025 lens — exploring trans visibility and Haber's own conflicted memories of the controversial SNL character. Expect performances, puppets, fan readings, and music, followed by a screening of the original '90s feature film **It's Pat**.

Infamously bad (with a 0% rating on Rotten Tomatoes), **It's Pat** is pop-cult-trash at its worst.... and no one should watch it alone! Come watch with filmmaker Rowan Haber in attendance.

Bring your favourite comfy cushion and blanket — we'll have free food and soda available, thanks to the incredible Aheda's Kitchen!

Auslan by Break A Finger



We Are Pat
USA, 2025, 92 mins
Dir. Rowan Haber
Unclassified **(U), 15+**
Open Captions CAP OC
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

It's Pat
USA, 1994, 77 mins
Dir. Adam Bernstein
Parental Guidance **(PG)**
Open Captions CAP OC

TICKETS

Tickets are available from tilde.org.au & footscrayarts.com
50% of all tickets sold go to Pay The Rent and APAN.

Single Session: Full $15 / Con $10 / Mob $5

No one turned away for lack of funds.
Doors open half an hour before each session

GET TICKETS

ACCESS

We're proud to be working with Break A Finger to centre Deaf-led Auslan access and Deaf cultural safety. Session info on our website will highlight where Auslan and captions are included. At our festival, you're welcome to wheel in, stretch out on a beanbag, move when you need, rest in the quiet room, and take up the space you need.



You'll find detailed, screen-reader-friendly access info here:
www.tildemelbourne.com/acess

You are warmly invited to speak with us about what we can do to welcome you to our events. Email: access@tilde.org.au

CLASSIFICATION OF FILMS

Except where indicated, our films are exempt from classification.
Anyone under 18 (including infants) is forbidden from attending 18+ sessions.

SPONSORS

CURATION PARTNERS

Sapphic Flicks

GAY24

EVENT FUNDERS

CREATIVE VICTORIA

Maribyrnong CITY COUNCIL

VICTORIA State Government

PROGRAM PARTNERS

AFTRS Australian Film Television and Radio School

thorne harbour health

CRUMPLER

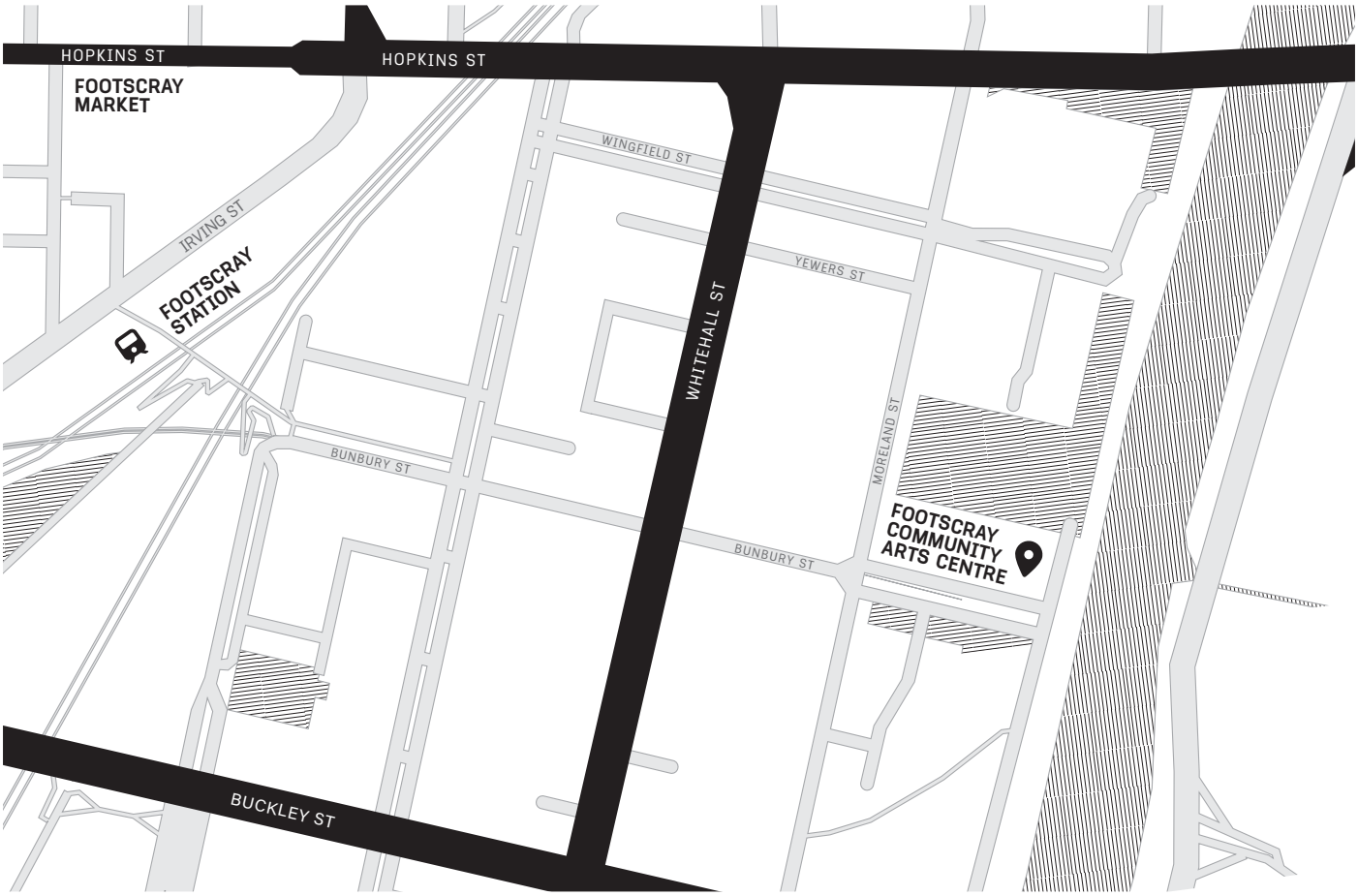
SNUFF PUPPETS

FESTIVAL PARTNERS

FOOTSCRAY COMMUNITY ARTS

acmi

VENUE A



FOOTSCRAY COMMUNITY ARTS

Address - 45 Moreland St, Footscray VIC 3011

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

A. Catch a train to Footscray Station and take a 5 minute walk down Bunbury Street.

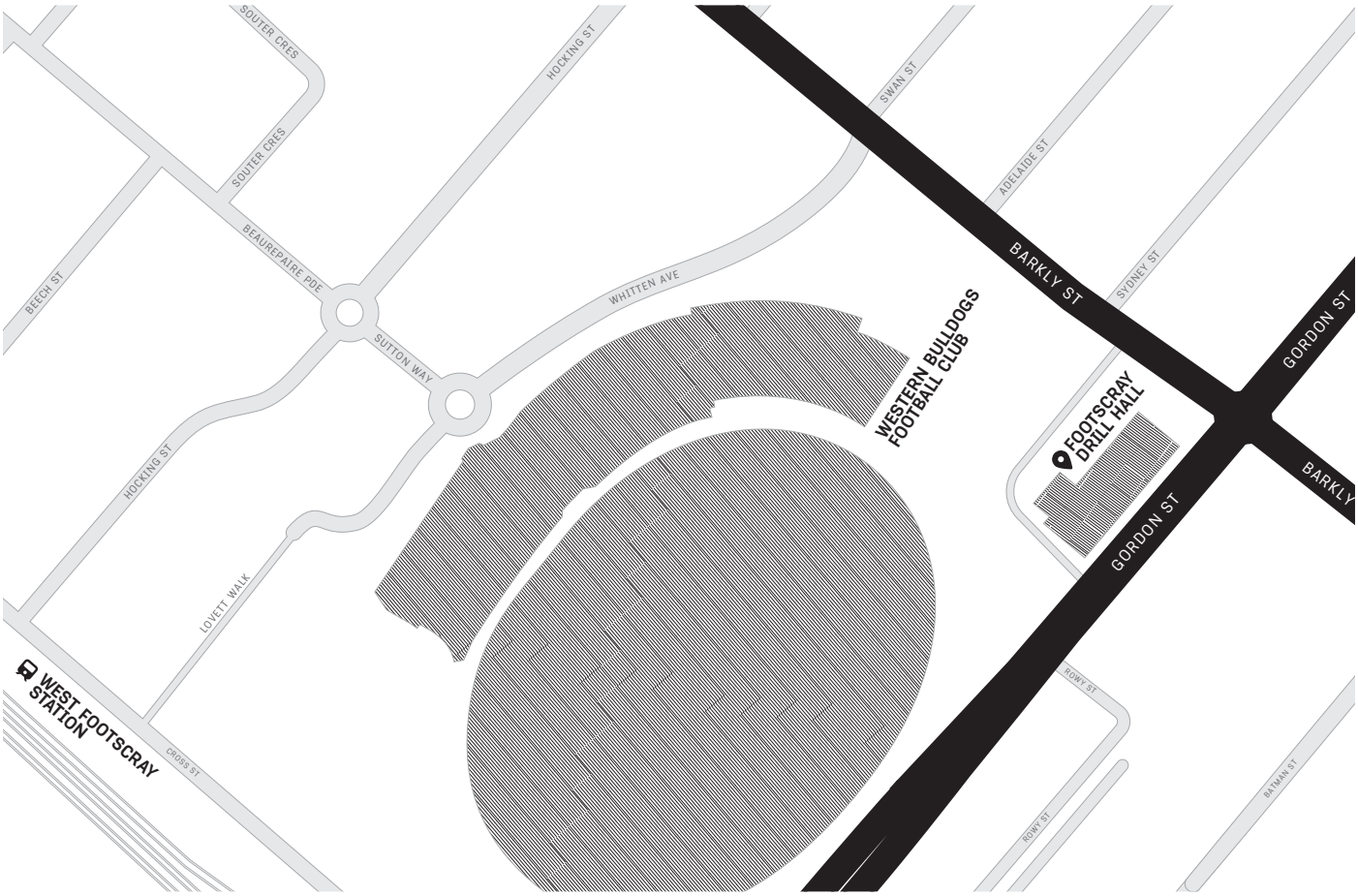
B. Take the 402 bus to the corner of Moreland Street and Dynon Road, then a 5 minute walk down Moreland Street.

PARKING

C. Taxis can stop directly in front or in the west side car park

D. There are two-hour unmetered car parks in FCAC's front car park and metered parking on Moreland Street.

VENUE B



FOOTSCRAY DRILL HALL

Address - 395 Barkly St, Footscray, VIC, 3011

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

A. Bike parking next to car park outside hall

B. Catch a train to West Footscray station (550 meter walk) or to Footscray station (1.4km walk)

C. Bus 220: Stops directly next door (15m)

D. Bus 216 & 410 : Stop on nearby Gordon St (75m).

PARKING

E. Taxis can stop directly in front of the Drill Hall.

F. Limited car parking, please contact us to reserve an access spot

2025 TEAM

BOARD
Rach Chapman, Zakaria Shahruddin, Julie Peters, Lucy Pitt, Taz Ziard, Audrey Thomas-Hayes, Chloe Turner

FESTIVAL STAFF
Ro Bright (CEO), Oliver Ross (Technical Producer), Elyssia Ra'nee Wilson-Heti (Marketing Manager), Jeremy Scerri (Access Coordinator)

CONSENT BASED PRACTICE CONSULTANT
Bayley Turner

GUEST CURATORS
Merryn Trescott, Jamie Connor, Jini Maxwell, Samantha Eckhardt

PROGRAMMING
Xander Dobbyn

FESTIVAL ANTHEM
Guardian Angel by Goddess Naavikaran

DESIGN
Rory Walker

ILLUSTRATION
Ash Spittal

PHOTOGRAPHY
Beau

TRAILER
Jude Ella

MENTOR
Jane Crawley

SUBCOMMITTEE
Phoebe Horton Andrews
Jane Crawley
Emily Hoe

AUSLAN PARTNER
Break A Finger

DOCUMENTATION
Sapphic Flicks (Merryn Trescott, Jamie Connor)
Jac Fitzgerald



PLANNER

KEY: **FCA** = Footscray Community Arts, **FDH** = Footscray Drill Hall,
S = Session, **FREE** = Free Event,
= Mask Encouraged, = Auslan, **OC** = Open Captions

TIME	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1 pm		**1:00pm - 2:30pm** **FCA, FREE** S2 - OUR FUTURE SECOND EDITION	
2 pm			
3 pm		**3:00pm - 4:30pm** **FCA, FREE** S3 - AFTRS AFTERNOON TEA + TOWN HALL	
4 pm			**4:00pm - 8:00pm** **FOOTSCRAY DRILL HALL** OC S6 - PAT DOUBLE FEATURE
5 pm			
6 pm		**6:00pm - 7:30pm** **FCA,** S4 - INTERNATIONAL SHORTS	
7 pm	**6:30pm - 10pm** **FCA** S1 - SAPPHIC FLICKS PRESENTS OPENING NIGHT		
8 pm			
9 pm		**9:00pm - 11:00pm** **FCA** S5 - GAY24 PRESENTS	
10 pm			
11 pm			

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL

Our story began in 2014 with a core group of dedicated volunteers who held the festival through to 2021. Covid put a big strain on these volunteers, so the festival hit pause. During that time, a review was done in deep partnership with Footscray Community Arts. This was a period of reflection, consideration and focus on the intentions of TILDE moving forward.

2024 saw the festival return to mark a decade of TILDE. We are leading this festival with humility and vulnerability fostering an environment of curiosity for the many varied lived experiences of our community. We have curated a program alongside our team of brilliant programmers that hopes to have captured the richness of these many lived lives through the lens of trans and gender expansive storytellers.

We at TILDE aim to serve our trans and gender diverse (TGD) community and their loved ones. Our focus is on the margins: those who live, work, and create on the periphery of dominant cultures. Our vision is to lead in TGD screen experience and practice. We want to build the practice and reputation of TILDE so that it is cherished by our community, respected, and sought after by TGD filmmakers, and recognised as a leader in Australia's creative industries.

THANK YOU

To everyone who has contributed their time and passion to support TILDE. We are incredibly grateful to our community, filmmakers, founders, and alumni. Thank you to our festival siblings at Seattle Trans Underground Film Festival and Anton Astudillo at Newfest.

A very special thank you to Jac Fitzgerald, who held TILDE with such care, carrying the festival from 2021 to 2024, we are forever grateful to you, Jac! Thank you to our strategic heroes, Jane Crawley, and to our core funders and sponsors. Thank you to Daniel Santangeli, Bernadette Fitzgerald, and the entire team at Footscray Community Arts. Thank you to Andy Freer, Nick Wilson, Daniel Flood, and Annalee Koernig at Snuff Puppets. We are truly grateful.


DRACULA'S DRIVE IN
NOW SHOWIN
THE HORRIBLE
TERRIFYIN
WORLD OF
MAN!
DARLING HUSBAND: 'HONEY - I'M HOME!!'
SNACKS
HONK IF YOU ♥ QUEERS
D3AD
BITE
BACK